

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient with a solid tumor, said method comprising:

- (a) administering intraoperatively via a locoregional route to said patient a first agent endowed with tumor tropism, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is selected from the group consisting of avidin, streptavidin, their polymeric derivatives and their derivatives with polyethylene glycol capable of concentrating locally on the tumor or in the vicinity of it and then
- (b) administering postoperatively via a systemic route a second anticancer agent with affinity for said first agent,

whereby increased accumulation of said first agent endowed with tumor tropism reduces the amount of said second anticancer agent to be administered.

2. Cancelled.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is avidin.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is avidin and said second anticancer agent is a biotinylated anticancer agent.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said second anticancer agent comprises an anticancer agent selected from the group consisting of radioisotopes, chemotherapeutic agents, toxins and anticancer agents.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, ~~in which~~ wherein said

anticancer agent is a radioisotope selected from the group consisting of Fe-52, Mn-52m, Co-55, Cu-64, Ga-67, Ga-68, Tc-99, In-111, I-123, I-125, I-131, P-32, Sc-47, Cu-67, Y-90, Pd-109, Ag-111, I-131, Pm-149, Re-186, Re-188, At-211, Pb-212, Bi-212 and Lu-177.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, ~~in which~~ wherein said radioisotope is Y-90 or Lu-177.

8. Cancelled.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said solid tumor is selected from the group consisting of breast, pancreas, lung, pleural, peritoneal, cervico-facial, brain and bladder tumors.

10. Cancelled.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent and second anticancer agent are administered by injection.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 11, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is successively administered by syringe in precise volume.

13 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is administered in a single dose.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is administered by spray or by injection in the tumor bed and surrounding tissue.

15-17. Cancelled.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient with a solid tumor, said method comprising

- (a) intraoperatively administering to the patient who is undergoing surgery, a first agent with affinity for the solid tumor, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is

selected from the group consisting of avidin, streptavidin, their polymeric derivatives and their derivatives with polyethylene glycol, capable of concentrating locally on the tumor or in the vicinity of it, directly to said solid tumor exposed during surgery or an anatomical area containing said solid tumor after surgical removal of the cancer and then

- (b) postoperatively and systematically administering to the patient a second anticancer agent with affinity for said first agent;

thereby concentrating said second anticancer agent in the solid tumor or the anatomical area, whereby increased accumulation of said first agent in said tumor reduces the amount of said second anticancer agent to be administered.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 18, ~~in which~~ wherein said solid tumor is selected from the group consisting of breast, pancreas, lung, pleural, peritoneal, cervico-facial, brain and bladder tumors.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 18, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is avidin and said second anticancer agent is a biotinylated and radiolabelled antibody.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 18, ~~in which~~ wherein said first agent is avidin.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 18, ~~in which~~ wherein said second anticancer agent comprises an anticancer agent selected from the group consisting of radioisotopes, chemotherapeutic agents, toxins and anticancer agent cells.

23. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a patient with a solid tumor, said method comprising:

- (a) administering intraoperatively to the patient, who is undergoing surgery, a protein

selected from the group consisting of avidin, streptavidin, a polymeric derivative of avidin, a polymeric derivative of streptavidin, a derivative of avidin with polyethylene glycol and a derivative of streptavidin with polyethylene glycol capable of concentrating locally on the tumor or in the vicinity of it, directly to said solid tumor exposed during surgery or an anatomical area containing said solid tumor after surgical removal of the cancer and then

- (b) administering postoperatively and systematically to the patient, who has undergone surgery, a biotinylated anticancer agent;

thereby concentrating said biotinylated anticancer agent in the solid tumor or the anatomical area, whereby increased accumulation of said avidin in said tumor reduces the amount of said anticancer agent to be administered.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23, ~~in which~~ wherein said solid tumor is selected from the group consisting of breast, pancreas, lung, pleural, peritoneal, cervico-facial, brain and bladder tumors.

25. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23, ~~in which~~ wherein said protein is avidin.

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23, ~~in which~~ wherein said second biotinylated anticancer agent comprises an anticancer agent selected from the group consisting of radioisotopes, chemotherapeutic agents, toxins and anticancer cells.

27. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 26, ~~in which~~ wherein said biotinylated anticancer agent is a radioisotope selected from the group consisting of Fe-52, Mn-52m, Co-55, Cu-64, Ga-67, Ga-68, Tc-99m, In-111, I-123, I-125, I-131, P-32, Sc-47, Cu-67, Y-

90, Pd-109, Ag-111, Ii-131, Pm-149, Re-186, Re-188, At-211, Pb-212, Bi-212 and Lu-177.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 27, ~~in which~~ wherein said radioisotope is Y-90 or Lu-177.

29 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23, ~~in which~~ wherein said protein is administered by injection in the tumor bed and surrounding tissue.

30. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a patient with solid tumor, said method consisting of:

- (a) administering intraoperatively to the patient, who is undergoing surgery, a protein selected from the group consisting of avidin, streptavidin, a polymeric derivative of avidin, a polymeric derivative of streptavidin, a polymeric derivative of avidin, a polymeric derivative of streptavidin with polyethylene glycol, capable of concentrating locally on the tumor cell or in the vicinity of it, directly to said solid tumor exposed during surgery or an anatomical area containing said solid tumor after surgical removal of the cancer and then
- (b) administering postoperatively and systematically to the patient, who has undergone surgery, a biotinylated anticancer agent.

thereby concentrating said biotinylated anticancer agent in the solid tumor or the anatomical area whereby this increased accumulation of said avidin in said tumor site reduces the amount of said anticancer agent to be administered.

31 (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein said solid tumor is selected from the group consisting of breast, pancreas, lung, pleural, peritoneal, cervico-facial, brain and bladder tumors.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~in which~~ wherein said protein is avidin

33. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein said biotinylated anticancer agent comprises an anticancer agent selected from the group consisting of radioisotopes, chemotherapeutic agents, toxins and anticancer cells.

34. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 33, ~~in which~~ wherein said biotinylated anticancer agent is a radioisotope selected from the group consisting of Fe-52, Mn-52m, Co-55, Cu-64, Ga-67, Ga-68, Tc-99m, In-111, I-123, I-125, I-131, P-32, Sc-47, Cu-67, Y-90, Pd-109, Ag-111, I-131, Pm-149, Re-186, Re-188, At-211, Pb-212, Bi-212 and Lu-177.

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 34, ~~in which~~ wherein said radioisotope is Y-90 or Lu-177.

36. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein said protein and said biotinylated anticancer agent are administered by injection.

37. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein said protein is successively administered by syringe in precise volumes.

38. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein said protein is administered in a single dose.

39. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, ~~in which~~ wherein said protein is administered by spray or by injection in the tumor bed and surrounding tissue.